

**A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE REMOVAL OF THE STRATEGIC HIGHWAY CORRIDOR DESIGNATION
FROM ANY PORTION OF US HIGHWAY 1 OR THE PROPOSED US HIGHWAY 1 BYPASS
IN RICHMOND COUNTY**

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Long-Range Multimodal Statewide Transportation Plan adopted by the Board of Transportation in September 2004 identified the Strategic Highway Corridors initiative as a new focus for the NCDOT to improve, protect, and better plan for a series of critical highway facilities in the State; and

WHEREAS, the formal recognition of the Strategic Highway Corridors concept confirms NCDOT's commitment to emphasize greater planning and investment in the state's highest use facilities – those facilities that play a critical role in the statewide mobility and regional connectivity; and

WHEREAS, the stated purpose of the Strategic Highway Corridors is to promote statewide economic prosperity and support the NCDOT's environmental stewardship goals; to preserve North Carolina's taxpayer investment in critical highway corridors; enhance major corridor mobility within and to destinations just outside North Carolina; and enhance connectivity of intrastate and interstate travel; and

WHEREAS, segments of existing US Highway 1 and the proposed US Highway 1 Bypass in Richmond County are designated as freeways on the Strategic Highway Corridor System; and

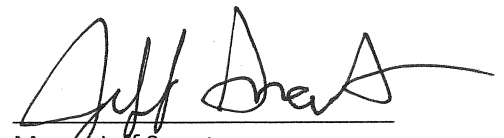
WHEREAS, the Hamlet City Council believes that US Highway 1 is a vital transportation corridor connecting Richmond County to other regional and statewide market centers and thus, is a key component in efforts to grow and diversify the economy of Richmond County; and

WHEREAS, the Hamlet City Council believes removing the Strategic Highway Corridor designation from US Highway 1 and the proposed US Highway 1 Bypass will diminish the connectivity and mobility of the facility and may negatively impact future funding for currently planned construction and improvement projects on the corridor.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Hamlet City Council supports the concept and purpose of the Strategic Highway Corridors initiative; and the continued designation of US Highway 1 and proposed segments of US Highway 1 Bypass as a Strategic Highway Corridor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, the Hamlet City Council is vehemently opposed to removing the designation of US Highway 1 as a Freeway on the Strategic Highway Corridor. Further, it is strongly suggested that no changes be made to the current and /or future segments of the US 1 Bypass in Richmond County.

This the 10th day of April, 2012.


Mayor Jeff Smart

ATTEST:


Tammy Kirkley, City Clerk

